

Carpool Lane Usage

Carpool Lane Popularity Continues to Grow

- As in past years, the most heavily used carpool lane segments in the Bay Area continued to be those on Interstate 80 in Alameda and Contra Costa. Westbound carpool lanes occupy the top two slots — not surprising given that the westbound morning commute from State Route 4 to the Bay Bridge once again ranked as the region's most congested commute.
- Traffic volume increased on six of the 10 most heavily used carpool lane segments in 2007.
- Over the five-year period from 2003 to 2007, the number of peak-hour, carpool-lane vehicles increased in all but two of the top ten segments. This is consistent with the increase in freeway congestion over the same period. The carpool lane with the largest percentage increase in usage was southbound U.S. 101 in Santa Clara County, from Guadalupe Parkway to the Interstate 280 and 680 interchange during the evening commute period. Peak-hour usage on this HOV lane surpassed 1,000 vehicles for the first time in 2007.

Bay Area Carpool Lanes With Highest Peak-Hour Usage, 2003–2007




Rank	Carpool Lane	Peak-Hour Carpool Vehicles ¹					Percent Change	
		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2006–2007	2003–2007
1	Interstate 80, westbound, a.m. — Alameda County Bay Bridge toll plaza	3,510	3,630	3,490	3,660	3,670	+<1%	+5%
2	Interstate 80, westbound, a.m. — Alameda County Contra Costa County line to Powell Street	1,510	1,480	1,630	1,650	1,760	+7%	+17%
3	U.S. 101, northbound, a.m. — Santa Clara County I-280/I-680 interchange to Guadalupe Parkway	1,550	1,300	1,170	1,250	1,600	+28%	+3%
4	Interstate 80, westbound, a.m. — Contra Costa County Route 4 to Alameda County line	1,510	1,330	1,390	1,490	1,480	–<1%	–2%
5	U.S. 101, southbound, p.m. — Santa Clara County Guadalupe Parkway to I-280/I-680 interchange	640	750	890	840	1,470	+75%	+130%
6	Route 84, westbound, a.m. — Alameda County Newark Boulevard to Dumbarton Bridge toll plaza	1,040	1,180	1,220	1,420	1,410	–<1%	+36%
7	Interstate 680, northbound, p.m. — Contra Costa County Alcosta Boulevard to Livorna Road	1,270	1,250	1,350	1,400	1,340	–4%	+6%
8	U.S. 101, southbound p.m. — Santa Clara County Ellis Street to Guadalupe Parkway	1,270	860	1,030	1,040	1,320	+27%	+4%
9	Interstate 80, eastbound, p.m. — Alameda County I-880 viaduct to Contra Costa County line	1,300	1,220	1,370	1,550	1,260	–19%	–3%
10	Route 4, westbound a.m. — Contra Costa County Loveridge Road to Port Chicago Highway	1,100	870	860	880	1,240	+41%	+13%

Source: Caltrans District 4

¹Includes buses, vanpools and motorcycles

Carpool Lane Peak-Hour Usage, 2007

Carpool Lanes
(with highest peak-hour usage)

-  Carpool lane segments with high peak-hour usage
-  Rank of segment in peak-hour usage (1 is highest volume.)
-  Remainder of regional carpool lane system



0 10 20 30 Miles

0 10 20 30 Kilometers

Street base map © Thomas Bros. Maps. All rights reserved.
MTC Graphics/pb — 10/2009

